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## BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION



### BECAUSE I'M HAPPY, CLAP ALONG

The Bell Ringer goes inside the MBA Cheerleading program

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### NASHVILLE FC

Coach Alan O'Connor soccer in Nashville

and the state of 13



# THE BELL RINGER

Montgomery Bell Academy

4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205

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Vol. LXX, No. 1

## BOYS WILL BE BOYS

International Boys School Coalition visits Nashville and the Hill



IBSC EXPLORES NASHVILLE: Alan Mazer of Urban Housing Solutions guides the students on a tour of Mercury Courts.

By Kang Huh  
Associate Editor

This past summer was one of the most important for MBA in recent memory. On June 27th, students, teachers, and headmasters representing schools from across the globe gathered on the Hill for the 21st Annual International Boys' School Coalition (IBSC) Conference. The conference, which lasted until July 2nd, highlighted the concept of "building boys into good men" and the many facets of that idea.

At the conference were many familiar schools with which MBA organizes exchange programs, including Eton College, Michaelhouse Diocesan College, and Melbourne Grammar School. The many other schools in attendance spanned 16 countries and six

continents.

Throughout the conference, representatives of schools explored not only MBA, but also all of Nashville and its iconic locations such as the Grand Ole Opry, Vanderbilt University and the Country Music Hall of Fame. At MBA, the adult representatives discussed different aspects of educating boys, and also listened to keynote speeches given by prominent Tennesseans, such as singer Amy Grant and author Jon Meacham.

Separate from the adults' activities was the IBSC Student Forum, which consisted of 25 students representing schools in seven different countries from the United States to Singapore. Led by MBA's own Lt. Col. Joe Sharbel and Dr. Cal Fuller, the forum focused primarily on building community

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## New fieldhouse plans making progress

By Ian Scholer  
News Editor

In 2001, the MBA leadership began meeting to formulate a plan for a major upgrade of the campus. They left with three major projects to be completed: a new academic building, a new dining hall, and a major expansion of the athletic facilities. The first two were completed two and a half and one and a half years ago respectively in the form of the Lowry Building and the New Dining Hall, both of which have already become integral to life on the Hill, as well as the addition of the rifle range, the soccer field and the new tennis facility.

The last project, however, has existed only in rumors. Uncertain students have only been able to guess what is in the works for this upgrade without a timeline or concrete plan to reference, only the name "fieldhouse."

In reality, the upgrade to the athletic facilities is much more than what a fieldhouse would normally entail. The first step in the process involves moving the football field from its current location to Andrews field, the current lacrosse and football practice field, along with a stadium that would eliminate the track buffer, allowing fans to be closer than ever to the action. The current stadium would continue to be used as the track facility as well as serve as an alternative turf field during all seasons.

Once the move is completed, the athletic facility upgrade will have barely begun. The current athletic building was built in 1957, with a gym, a small weight room, a locker room, and two science labs. The building has been expanded since then to hold a second, smaller

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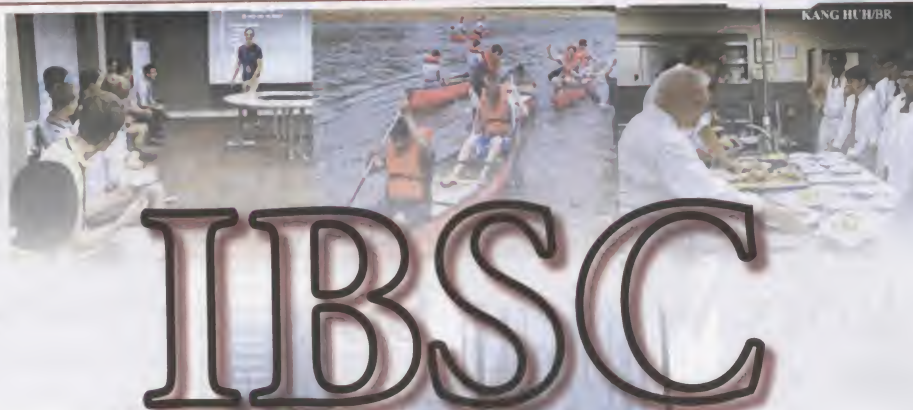
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Matisse in London's Tate Modern



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and "stronger servants." Representing MBA was Senior Kang Huh, who participated in the program consisting of varying service activities with Nashville-area non-profit organizations, namely Urban Housing Solutions, the Nashville Food Project, the Greenways of Nashville & Watershed Alliances and Thistle Farms. The group concluded each day of activities with a movie, followed by a discussion of the ways in which the movie described the idea of community.

Aside from the community service projects and the nightly discussions, students also organized and operated a "Battle of the Bands" concert at Rocketown, in which musical groups vied for various prizes. The concert benefited the W.O. Smith School of Music and was won by a student band, Five Piece Fortune. Also competing was MBA alumnus Nathan "Littlefoot" Fouts, who was declared the second prizewinner and declared the fan favorite of the night. In third was Radnor, of which MBA alumnus Salvatore Neglia is a part. St. Mark's School of Texas representative George Lin was enamored by the music, "especially Littlefoot. I didn't expect him to be able to rap so well."

The highlight of the Student



PHOTO COURTESY OF WILL NORTON/BK RED PHOTOS

**TOP LEFT:** Student forum participants use the Innovation Room to share their unique ideas and experiences

**TOP MIDDLE:** Canoeing at Long Mountain brings students from around the world together.

**TOP RIGHT:** Mr. Morrison leads a group of IBSC participants in preparing a Last Saturday Dinner for those in need.

**BOTTOM:** Mr. Gioia talks to the conference in scenic downtown Nashville

Forum was the development of a "community plan of action," a proposed service project drawing from the experiences at the various non-profit

organizations throughout the forum. What the students devised by the end of the conference was a project dubbed "The Garden of Eatin'," a project that planned to establish community gardens within Nashville's "food deserts," or areas that lack access to fresh foods. The project was inspired by the experiences with Alan Mazer of Urban Housing Solutions,

who showed the group that the tenants of the Mercury Court neighborhood of Murfreesboro are interested in growing their own, fresh foods, but simply do not have the resources to do so.

At the conference's conclusion, six members of the Student Forum, including MBA representative Kang Huh, presented an overview of the group's activities to the adults, concluding with a presentation of the final, community plan of action. M.C. Kejriwal Vidyapeeth representative Rahul Kapur lauded the program saying, "Being around so many English speakers helped me gain confidence in my own language skills. I have made many friends whom I will cherish for a lifetime."

After an incredibly successful week, MBA closed the 21st Annual IBSC Conference on July 2nd, and the students, their mentors, and their headmasters returned to the countries from which they came. The past year of intense preparation proved fruitful, as the representatives of each school left satisfied and filled with many memories of Nashville.

In late June of next year, the IBSC will reconvene in Cape Town, South Africa for its 22nd Annual Conference.



**MUSIC TO THE EARS:** Boy Named Banjo serenades the students and teachers of the IBSC Conference.



**SMILE WIDE:** The students of the IBSC sample authentic Thai cuisine at The Smiling Elephant.



## The Wild, Wild West



WESTWARD BOUND: Gentlemen-scholar-athletes trek into the great wilderness of the American West.

### MBA Expedition visits Grand Canyon, Sequoia and Yosemite

By Matt Miccioli  
Executive Editor

From June 16th to 23rd, twenty-six brave young gentlemen-scholar-athletes ventured across the Mississippi to sample some of America's finest wilderness. Destinations included the South Rim of the Grand Canyon, pristine Sequoia groves, and Half Dome in Yosemite.

Before the scorpions, rattlesnakes and bears, the group's first obstacle was a 5:00 am plane flight to Las Vegas. Upon arrival, the boys fired down a greasy meal of In-n-Out and loaded up the buses.

After a brief visit to the Hoover Dam, the expedition made its way down Route 66 to the Havasupai Indian reservation. Sunset over the canyon bathed the sandstone in a red glow for the first leg of the night hike. Sweaty and dusty, the budding outdoorsmen camped seven miles from the trailhead.

The end of the trail, tackled early the next morning, wound through the Indian village to Havasu Falls. At Havasu, water cascades down a 100-foot cliff, filling a pool of water dyed electric blue by the lime in the surrounding soil. Further downriver, 210-foot Mooney Falls requires a steep cable climb to access its spray-drenched base.

A relaxing day of swimming and resting came to a close with another night

hike, the beginning of the eleven miles out of the canyon. Finishing the hike in the morning, the group drove to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. After making camp and hiking some of the rim trails, they watched the sunset together over the canyon.

Separated by a long van ride, Sequoia was the next destination. There, the students explored the famous groves, saw the largest tree in the world, absorbed the views of the Sierras, and even encountered several bears along the way.

Upon arriving in Yosemite, the final destination of the expedition, the group made camp, explored Yosemite Falls, and unsuccessfully attempted some fly-fishing. A late afternoon hike up to Glacier Point provided an excellent vista for the viewing of sunset on Half Dome, El Capitan, and the valley.

The Half Dome hike was both the literal and figurative apex of the trip, completed by eleven members of the expedition. Beginning at Glacier Point, those seeking the summit hiked nearly twenty miles total, passed Nevada Falls, struggled up the cable climb, and followed the Mist Trail back to camp.

Mr. Norton even commented, "That was harder than I remembered."

This memorable trip allowed students to set aside their cell phones for awhile, sleep in dirt, and enjoy some of the finest hiking the nation has to offer.

MATT MICCIOLI/BR



SCENIC INTAKE: Matt captures the broad expanse of the Wild West.



HAVASU FALLS: A waterfall along the trail provides a picturesque look at nature.

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### New Gym on the Block

gym and a more spacious weight room, but some parts still very much resemble the building that was built for 450 students. According to Athletic Director Scott O'Neal, to give our athletes the maximum chance of success, the locker room square-footage needs to be doubled, while the weight room must triple in size.

The next big project would therefore be a vast expansion of the athletic building, possibly extending out toward the tennis courts until the new drive forces it to stop.

This massive addition to the athletic facilities would include two main floors. The main floor would consist of a large multi-purpose space that could easily be converted into basketball courts or indoor turf fields. There might also be opportunities for track space and synthetic ice for hockey. The basement would be used for more locker room, weight room and training space.

All sports would suddenly find themselves with new indoor facilities. Baseball might have indoor batting cages. The golf team might drive into a net with electronic capabilities to predict the direction of the shot.

Lacrosse and soccer would both have indoor practice options, as would football. The six basketball teams (three in the junior school, three in the high schools) could finally spread out. Rowing would have extra space for their machines, and wrestling would also see its area expanded. Tennis would have indoor places to work on volleys, and a climbing wall could be installed along the side to help keep the climbing team on campus. Intramurals could pick up again with all the new available space. And everyone would get a larger place to train and a more spacious locker room.

"The purpose of this expansion is not just to benefit a team or two but rather to benefit every single student and team on campus," says Coach O'Neal. The project has been designed to at least indirectly benefit everyone, from the casual intramural soccer player to the four-year letter winner. He adds, "It is very important that we give all here at MBA the opportunity to fulfill the 'athlete' part of our motto," calling the expansion a necessary piece of that goal.

When construction will begin on this huge project remains to be seen, but young athletes on the Hill can certainly look forward to an expansion of both the building and athletic opportunities.

## Business Club to Introduce New Society

MBA Entrepreneurial Society will foster student business interests

By Kang Huh  
Associate Editor

Private equity. Investment banking. Healthcare management. These are all words that you've probably heard before, but really don't know what they mean. Luckily, there is a new opportunity at MBA that seeks to educate students in the field of business and its many complexities.

This new opportunity, developed by Seniors Aaron Kaplan and Kang Huh, is called the "MBA Entrepreneurial Society." Consisting of local, Nashville-area businesspeople and MBA students, the group seeks to educate students about business by immersing them directly in the many facets of the field. The group aims to promote interaction between students and these businesspeople with the goal of creating greater dialogue between the two groups (something that would not have happened without some sort of connection or reference).

With this dialogue, students involved in the society will be allowed to interact with the businesspeople and receive direct information about the fields in which they work. Students will also be able to involve themselves in the field in the form of an internship, should the businesspeople agree to provide such an opportunity.

To kick off its inaugural year, Kaplan and Huh introduced four Nashville-area businesspeople to spearhead the group's activities, with careers in different fields ranging from

private equity to mass marketing. The members include: Mr. Royal Fowler, Mr. John Smithwick, Mr. Richard Travis, and Mr. Will Weaver.

Mr. Royal H. Fowler, III has been a Vice President of Nashville's Equitable Trust Company since 2007. Equitable Trust is Nashville's premier trust company, and offers services in wealth management through trust administration, investment management and estate administration, to name a few. The company also provides investment

advisory services, a program that serves to increase a client's wealth.

Mr. Fowler himself is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and a Chartered Market Technician (CMT), making him an excellent source of information in the immense field of investing.

Mr. John Smithwick is the Chief Executive Officer of a Nashville-based care management company, RoundingWell. Founded in 2011, RoundingWell combines technology and medicine to lessen the number of hospital readmissions for those with chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes and congestive heart failure. To do so, the company has set up a patient outreach

program that allows partner hospitals to engage their patients outside of the hospital. As a result, clinicians have an easier time gauging the condition of the patient. Mr. Smithwick's involvement in RoundingWell makes him an expert in the fields of business management, healthcare and care management.

Mr. T. Richard Travis has been a Senior Vice President and Trust Officer of Equitable Trust Company since 2011, and is also a director of the company as well. Mr. Travis is has been heavily

*Consisting of local, Nashville-area businesspeople and MBA students, the group seeks to educate students about business by immersing them directly in the many facets of the field.*

involved in personal trust and estate administration, having done both for Third National Bank and Commerce Union Bank from 1984 to 1994. From then until 2010, Mr. Travis practiced law at Manier &

Herod, eventually earning the distinction of being included in The Best Lawyers in America in the category of Trusts and Estates Law. Having experience both in business and in law, Mr. Travis' experiences make him a definitive source of information regarding business law and trust and estates administration.

Mr. Will Weaver is the Co-Founder of Emma, Inc. and the President and Chief Technical Officer of RoundingWell. Emma, Inc. is a web-based marketing company that focuses primarily on marketing via email.

Founded in 2001, the company has been an immense success in its field, providing services that aim to create well-designed email campaigns, surveys and other types of web-based marketing media. In addition to his involvement in Emma, Inc., Mr. Weaver also spends his time at RoundingWell. His experiences in both companies give him expert knowledge regarding both marketing and care management.

With so many different types of businessmen and so many different types of knowledge, the Entrepreneurial Society is the opportunity for any MBA student to learn and advance his knowledge in business—it's up to the student to decide which field he wants to pursue. To be involved in the society, the steps are simple. First, a prospective student must sign up for the society at the Activity Fair. Then, the student must be interviewed about why he would like to be a part of the society.

Because the Entrepreneurial Society exists as a source of knowledge and education, it is looking to admit as many new members as it can. With so many sources of reliable information, the society will give students the chance to experience a professional career before even going to college—or graduate school. This greater knowledge will prepare and excite students for a possible career in business in the foreseeable future.

## JSA Club Bursts Onto Scene

By Harrison Wheeler  
Opinions Editor

Of all the club meetings that occurred weekly last year at MBA, few were as controversial as those of the JSA. From the Affordable Care Act to the turmoil in the Ukraine, JSA members partook in heated debates on a weekly basis.

Short for Junior State of America, the JSA is a national organization with chapters in high schools across the United States. The official mission statement of the JSA is "to strengthen American democracy by educating and preparing high school students for life-long involvement and responsible leadership in a democratic society."

Upon recognizing the politically active student body at MBA, rising senior Ian Scholer decided to create a campus JSA

chapter. Despite being one of MBA's newest clubs, the JSA flourished in the 2013-2014 school year.

Before the JSA began, the club's four founding officers (Ian Scholer, Harrison Wheeler, Richard Thornton, William Snow) were worried that turn-outs would be low. Thankfully, to their surprise, Dr. Boyd's room was completely filled each week with students eager to discuss both domestic and international affairs.

With discussion topics ranging from healthcare to Snowden, JSA discussions are diverse and relevant. The club also does a great job of highlighting the differences in opinions held by students at MBA. Open to all high-school students, the JSA offers participants an opportunity to meet and interact with students in grade levels other than their own.

When asked about the hopes for the club in the 2014-2015 school year, President Ian Scholer said, "We hope to continue having great conversations about important

global issues. By participating in our conversations last year, JSA members gained a deeper understanding of pressing issues. With the upcoming school year, we hope to learn from one another and compete in national conferences."

In an age of increasing importance of young adults, the idea of the organization is that all high school students should make an effort to become globally aware and politically active. While JSA members benefit from weekly discussions, they are also preparing themselves for the increasingly international workforce.

The JSA invites anyone interested in politics and world affairs

to make his voice heard by attending this year's weekly meetings.





# Charter Schools

## PRO

By Michael Milam  
Opinions Editor

One of the most pressing issues within the field of local education, especially in light of the recent School Board elections, is the issue of allowing and funding charter schools. For those unaware of the definition of "charter school," a charter school is a school that is funded by the government, but that is organized and operated by an independent body. Charter schools serve to help a community's education system grow as well as to increase the ability of parents to have voices in the education of their children.

Charter schools have an advantage over many traditional public schools in that they have standards to uphold. If unable to maintain state-tested baseline standards, charter schools do not have their charters renewed. This method of administering education helps to ensure that schools have an incentive to improve and that schools that cannot perform at the same levels as standard public schools are shut down.

In many cases these schools also run more smoothly, as they are not run by a government bureaucracy, but by a non-profit or company that often works only on the school at-hand. With charter schools, many of the inefficiencies that arise out of government-run endeavors are corrected. In turn, money is saved for the state and can be used to improve the school.

One of the major issues with the education system as it stands is that parents have minimal choice about where to send their children. Currently, a student's placement is based upon his or her place of residence. Charter schools allow people to avoid undesirable local public schools if necessary. No one is limited by his or her location, and everyone has a fair shot at better schools.

The Institute of Education Services found that, "On average, charter middle schools that held lotteries were neither more nor less successful than traditional public schools in improving math or reading test scores, attendance, grade promotion, or student conduct within or outside of school. Being admitted to a study charter school did significantly improve both students' and parents' satisfaction with school." If the level of education remains the same, why not allow parents a choice and thus improve satisfaction?

Many people argue that charter schools discriminate against minorities, as many people of other backgrounds cannot afford transportation to these charter schools. However, many magnet schools, which are deemed perfectly acceptable by most people, do not provide transportation for students. Magnet schools in Nashville like Hume-Fogg, Meigs, and Martin Luther King Jr. do not provide transportation and yet are considered some of the best schools in the state. While these magnet schools have admission standards, charter schools in Tennessee are forced to accommodate all students who wish to attend, regardless of test scores. In this way, charter schools are even more inclusive than some public schools.

Another argument many people present against charter schools is that they turn away students with physical and learning disabilities. While this may be the case in some places, in Tennessee charter schools are required by law to accommodate disabled students and cannot turn anyone away except when the capacity of the school has been reached.

Charter schools provide an alternative method of education that restores the power of choice to parents and allows students an alternative to their local public schools. For these reasons, charter schools should continue to be opened and operated in the state of Tennessee.

## CON

By Harrison Wheeler  
Opinions Editor

In a world where extreme political partisanship is becoming increasingly commonplace, one goal is shared by all parties. Whether Democrat, Republican, or anything in-between, everyone agrees that the US public school system is in need of reform.

In recent years the education debate has been dominated by arguments for and against charter schools. While there are undoubtedly benefits to the system, charter schooling as a whole is simply not ready to be implemented in the United States.

Charter schools are very similar to pre-existing public schools in that they are publicly funded. Unlike current public schools, however, charter schools are privately operated.

As privately run institutions, charter schools are free from the rules and regulations that help maintain the standard for public schools.

In 2013, the Center for Research on Education Outcomes at Stanford University conducted a study on charter schools in over 26 states. The results were troubling. The majority of charter school students performed equal to, if not worse than, students at conventional public schools. In fact, 40% of the charter school students analyzed had lower scores than those students in standard public schools.

The size limitations of charter schools present a further issue. Even with public funding, charter schools are far less common than traditional public schools. Currently, only two million of the 50 million students in the US attend charter schools. If the entire US education system is in need of reform,

why should taxpayers fund institutions that affect such a small percentage of the student population?

Rather than spend millions of taxpayer dollars to create and maintain charter schools, the US government should work to improve the public schools that are already in place. Charter schools drain the funding from the existing public schools that so badly need amending.

Because most Americans can agree on the importance of public education, major political figures across the country have recently voiced their opinions, and the issue has been exceedingly divisive. Bill de Blasio, mayor of New York, has publicly opposed charter schools a number of times. Eric Cantor, US House Majority Leader, responded scathingly by claiming that the mayor was creating a "war against kids."

It is important to note that the charter school debate is extremely prominent here in Tennessee. In 2014-2015, no less than four charter schools are slated to be built in the Nashville area. In April 2013, a final committee vote rejected a proposal that would have allowed charter schools in Tennessee to be run by for-profit organizations.

Without question, charter schools are quickly becoming a relevant issue on both a local and national level. While charter schools harbor many hypothetical benefits, the negatives they produce are too significant to overlook.

As the issue of charter schools becomes increasingly prominent, it is important for Americans to remember the problem at hand and not let partisanship or other factors get in the way of education reform.

## Brazil Loss...Needed

By Ian Scholer  
News Editor

In the semifinals of the 2014 FIFA World Cup, the host nation of Brazil went face-to-face against Germany. The entire nation came to a halt as it watched the much-anticipated match between the two soccer powerhouses. Both nations were as hopeful as the other of winning the sport's most important prize. Tensions ran particularly high in Brazil, where the population was enthralled by belief in its national team.

Brazil's hope came crumbling down in a mere six minutes during the first half, in which eventual champions Germany scored four goals to take a 5-0 lead. Germany then went on to rout Brazil 7-1 and thus completed the humiliation for the host nation. The people of Brazil were devastated.

As strange as it may sound, this

global humiliation is exactly what Brazil needed.

In 2013, The World Economic Forum ranked Brazil's infrastructure a dismal 114th out of 128 in the world. Because the nation did not even have roads suitable for bringing construction materials to the World Cup stadium in Manaus, an obscene amount of money was spent on shipping supplies by river barge to a stadium that would only ever house four total matches. It is likely that the stadium will now sit empty, as there is no major club team in the remote region to occupy it.

Brazil's public transportation system is similarly troubled, plagued by strikes similar to the one that threw last year's Confederation Cup into chaos. The combination of poor infrastructure and poor public transportation makes the lives of Brazilians much more difficult, and its government must be held accountable for

these problems.

Unfortunately, the level of reform needed will not be easy to achieve. While improving the infrastructure is necessary, it would undoubtedly make a dent in the budget. With this, President Rousseff will have to either pursue spending cuts or raise taxes on the top wage earners, with the latter being the more practical solution. Brazil is notorious for both its vast inequality and its notable corruption, an all-too-common combination. Those in office will likely be heavily pressured not to support any tax hike on the top 1%.

The much-needed infrastructure improvements will likely come only by popular demand. Such levels of demand would not have come if Brazil had won the World Cup. Instead, the nation's woes would have been drowned out by pride in its national team, leaving the real problems unsolved.

The 2014 World Cup proved that soccer can reflect national identity. The United States played with grit, unity and determination despite a lack of flare. England played with a cynicism usually reserved for the rainiest days, and the Netherlands team played with a chip on its shoulder and a sprinkle of arrogance. In the end, a German nation with little wealth inequality and corruption played as an exceptionally efficient team, while Brazil struggled to find passing lanes and team unity.

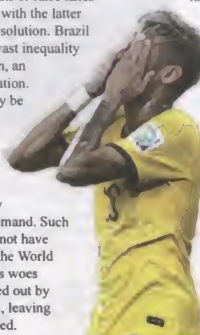


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# WESLEY TSENG

## 1997-2014

"Mollia non rigidus caespes tegat ossa nec illi, Terra, gravis fueris, non fuit ille tibi."



"May the earth softly cover his gentle bones. Oh Earth, be not heavy on him, for he was not heavy on you."

-- Marcus Valerius Martialis, 41 - 104 A.D.

Wesley was bright, thoughtful, compassionate and one of my best friends. As I look back on my years with Wesley, I can think of a myriad of goofy memories and humorous tidbits that never fail to bring a smile to my face. One of his defining traits was his effortless sense of humor, and I believe he'd like me to share some of our stories.

Although we'd had some classes together in 7th grade, we first really bonded through the rifle team. Throughout long bus trips for away matches, evading boredom was our goal. Wesley would draw ridiculous cartoons of everything from anthropomorphic dinosaurs to caricatures of teachers, and we'd discuss the latest episodes of the YouTube series "Whitest Kids You Know" and our favorite selections from the Urban Dictionary app.

That rifle season happened to coincide with one of the infamous cicada infestations. Like good, productive MBA students, Wesley and I would spend our study halls capturing, training, and racing the insects. Leaving "presents" for our teachers to find (sorry Mr. Bullington), we managed to creatively employ our six legged friends as weapons of terror. However, unlike the other 8th grade boys, he refused to torture the bugs, releasing our named companions after each study hall.

As we grew older, Wes drifted away from the rifle team, but his easygoing nature was present in everything we did together. As you all know, Wes was no neophyte in the gym. Patient enough to volunteer

to teach me proper power cleaning form, he happily endured the smirks and chuckles of the football players as my 115 pound, sophomore-self asked innumerable questions, requested demonstration after demonstration, and struggled to lift one plate.

Wes was always available to talk things out. Regardless of the time or circumstances, he'd roll up in the CR-V, affectionately referred to as the "cockpit" due to its airplane inspired interior styling; we'd grab disgusting quantities of fast food; blast anything from Tyler the Creator and Earl Sweatshirt to John Denver; and then head to the train tracks, Graffiti City, or simply just drive, clearing our heads. For hours, we'd discuss everything from schoolwork and potential colleges to my ongoing struggles with the female

gender. However, if I ever became too critical, Wes was quick to find the positive in all situations and people.

As you all know, Wes was involved significantly with service. When I decided to try a new project, I could always count on Wes to accompany me, on the off chance he wasn't already participating. This past year I was involved with The Nashville Food Project. One Friday night, I was making desperate calls requesting help with a truck run the next morning. Wesley's response to my plea for help was: "Rev up the fryers, 'cause Ole Wes is joinin' the gang." From then

on, he was a regular and likely attended more often than I did.

I'd like to close with perhaps my fondest memory of Wes, which came the night of Harpeth Hall prom. Spilling out of a cab together sometime after 1:00am, we met up with Jackson and William. Proceeding to terrorize Honeywood Drive and the unsuspecting streets of greater Belle Meade, this quartet exemplified what is as close as we'll get to youthful delinquency and uncontained debauchery. However, after tiring of marauding, we returned to Jackson's basement for what would come to be described as a

legendary jam session. Featuring Jackson on the one string banjo, William on the mandolin, Wesley, of course, on the cello, and me on the sliding trombone, this motley crew produced the sweetest sounds to ever originate in that basement at 3:30 in the



morning. Although little can be said for my innate musical ability, sitting back and listening to Wesley play so masterfully in such absurd circumstances will stick with me forever. And, even though I've yet to graduate high school, I'm sure that my relationship with Wesley will be one of the most meaningful of my life, with his impact surely lasting with me for years to come.

-- Matt Miccioli







## THE BELL RINGER

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Letters to the Editor are encouraged, and can be delivered to the Bell Ringer office in the Lowry Building, the Faculty Advisors or the Editors, or sent to [bellringer@montgomerybell.edu](mailto:bellringer@montgomerybell.edu) (simply type 'Bell Ringer' into the school email). These letters must be signed; The Bell Ringer neither publishes anonymous submissions of opinions or articles nor permits individuals to remain unidentified unless protected by other rules of confidentiality at MBA. Letters will be edited for length and clarity.

The staff of The Bell Ringer prepares all copy, headlines, and photographs at Montgomery Bell Academy. Tennesseean/Gannett in Nashville, Tennessee, prints the paper.

## From the Editor's Desk:



*"To give pleasure to a single heart by a single act is better than a thousand heads bowing in prayer."*

- Mahatma Ghandi

We lost a special member of our community this June. Wesley Tseng was a joy to those who met him. He was a friend who always brought a smile to his colleagues' and teachers' faces and much, much more.

It is how we cope with our tragedy that will define us. The senior class, the student body, the faculty, the broader school community, the Nashville community and the communities Wesley has touched around the world have and should continue to rally around each other in celebrating the lovely life Wesley had and shared with those around him.

If we take anything from the recent heartbreaking experience, it should be courage as defined in various ways. Our recovery will depend on each other, on reaching out to unfamiliar and familiar faces alike. Lend a helping hand to someone in mourning, be open with your emotions and unite with the people who share a mutual loss.

Let's allow this tragedy to bring us together. Let's learn about each other in a way we have not been able to inspire to previously. Life is short, and Wesley's passing has made that all too

obvious.

Take advantage of every opportunity you have to spend time with your friends and, more importantly, to make new friends. Go out of your way to make a positive influence on someone's life, because you never know how far your contribution could go in improving their day, their week, their life.

That will take courage. Voluntary courage means stepping out of your comfort zone and doing something unfamiliar. Go sit next to your lonely classmate at lunch. Approach a worried seventh grader and give him friendly advice. Don't fear judgment by others for doing these things, and don't judge people for making friendly efforts.

We all wish we could have had more opportunities to touch Wesley's life in a positive way. While he may no longer be with us, look around at all the friendly faces currently surrounding you and hopefully surrounding you for a long time into the future. Seize the day. Be courageous, and may our courage this year be a testament to the wonderful life Wesley lived.

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# Leaders of the Cheer World



Big Red Cheerleaders lead MBA students in supporting the football team during its game against Baylor last fall.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WILL NORTON FOR RED PHOTOS

## What we don't know about the people who put the pep in our pep rallies

By Nolan Spear  
Sports Editor

Here on the Hill, we love our cheerleaders. We really do. And this time of year, once we escape the school work and that 3 o'clock Friday feeling rolls around, the ladies in red and white are welcomed to campus. However, this past year, as each week passed by, we here at *The Bell Ringer* began to formulate a powerful question over on the second floor of Lowry- what do we really know about cheerleaders? Where do they come from? How does one become a cheerleader? Where do they fry the bacon? What kind of bacon is it? How many cheerleaders are there? So many questions, so few answers, but let's try to tackle a few.

**Where do cheerleaders come from?** Harpeth Hall and Saint Cecilia.

**How does one become a cheerleader?** To become one of these elite in red and white, St. Cecilia and Harpeth Hall girls sign up and then head to camp, practicing similar stunts while trying to make the team. Not everyone makes the team, some tears are shed, but eventually multiple squads emerge from the gymnasium- one freshman football squad, and then 3 different varsity football, varsity

basketball, and varsity wrestling cheerleading squads, each with their own different chants, routines and locations at their various events. There's no birthright involved, but a lot of #dedication and #resilience goes into making the squad.

**How many cheerleaders are out there?** In this current year, there are exactly 20 varsity football cheerleaders, 21 varsity basketball cheerleaders, and 7 varsity wrestling cheerleaders.

**Could men ever be cheerleaders?** Unfortunately, I don't think so. The Big Red Army needs every soldier it can get.

**Where do they fry the bacon?** Unconfirmed; some say the Sahara Desert, others the lacrosse field — who really knows.

**What do cheerleaders do at practice?** I must say, another solid question emerges here. Now, when I posed this question to an unnamed junior cheerleader, I wasn't sure what to expect. However, I

wasn't surprised to learn they put in serious work in practice, repeatedly rehearsing their stunts to ensure success come Friday nights. Like for any great football team, mastering a game-plan preparation is necessary. Like Phelps Gambill on that o-line, it's all about reps, reps, reps.

**Specifically, how much do football cheerleaders have to practice in the fall?** Once tryouts finish at the end of August and

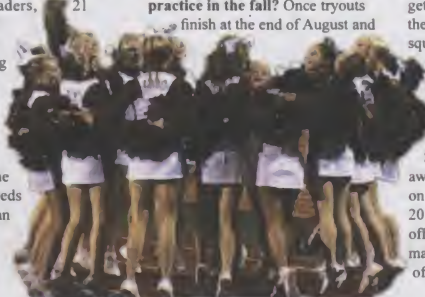
**Are cheerleaders hazed by other cheerleaders?** Yes, but not in the way one would think. I posed this question to Sara Puryear, a senior cheerleader, and I was actually very far off from the truth. Unlike in other sports, such as football, freshmen are not hazed on the cheerleading team; rather, it's when cheerleaders are rising sophomores that they get the full hazing treatment. Since they are transitioning to the varsity squad, they are required to go on a full scavenger hunt across town, performing various embarrassing activities.

**Do they truly have an unlimited number of cheers?**

Sadly, no, but that would be awesome if they did. Our fine ladies on the sidelines actually know about 20 defensive-related cheers, 20 for offense, and 10 different dances. It may seem like a never-ending cycle of moves, but alas, it is not.

**Do cheerleaders truly enjoy pep rallies?** Ah, this truly is the million dollar question...

For us Big Red Scholars, the cheerleaders are always a cheerful presence on campus. Their hard work does not go unnoticed, and their efforts go a long way toward making our sporting event experiences the best they can be.









# MEET THE PRESS(IDENTS)

By Richard Thornton  
Staff Writer



**Kang Huh**  
*Service Club*

Kang has many goals for the Service Club this year, namely: to make service more accessible, to encourage a love of service rather than a love of service hours and to integrate MBA further into the Nashville community through service. Kang wants to make service accessible to everyone. The Service Club will not be offering watered down projects but will make projects that are specialized to people and their individual skills. Kang wants to "encourage people to be active in service projects instead of merely sitting and watching."

In regards to Kang's second goal, he believes that there should be a reward for hard work but that the award should come second to the true motive: love of service. With his third goal, Kang wants "MBA students to not only touch groups and communities but also individuals." To help accomplish this goal, he wants to start a community garden project at Mercury Courts, a low-income housing complex in Murfreesboro in order to localize sources of fresh foods in communities that otherwise lack such foods. The project would integrate students and anyone in the greater Nashville community by allowing them to work side-by-side to tend to this garden. Kang has explained that these are the type of service projects he wants to promote



**Cole Jones**  
*Senior Class*

Over the summer, Cole has been working on a couple of projects with a few classmates to hopefully improve the MBA student life. One such project is an MBA "Senior Room." Cole believes that the senior class needs a place to congregate, study, and relax. Early in the 2014 school year, The College Counseling Room will undergo a re-fitting in an effort to accommodate the goals of greater camaraderie, as well as for practical study purposes. Cole hopes that this room will serve for these purposes, as well as give the seniors "an enjoyable privilege for their years of work on the Hill."

Some may feel that this room creates separation between the 12th grade and the rest of the school. However, Cole will continue to encourage the senior class to improve upon the sense of community among the grades at MBA, creating "an atmosphere of genuine kindness," which spreads from older to younger years.



**Trevor Patton**  
*Student Council*

Trevor has been a member of Student Council since his second year at MBA as a sophomore, and his enthusiasm, energy and leadership in his role have led to his current position. He has helped the Student Council with numerous events and projects over the years including Homecoming, the Commanders' Cup, and the Basketball Tournament.

Trevor is "pumped to be the student council president this year." He has done some thinking over the summer on how to improve matters on campus and get students more involved in "the awesome student council events." According to Trevor, the student council will be "hyping up" the Commanders' Cup. They want to increase participation to hopefully 25%. Also, there is a possibility of a car bash, hack-a-thon, and an alumni tennis tournament. Trevor wants the student body to be involved in all these events, and he wants the Microbes to get involved. He has done some planning and has come up with some great, new ideas for Homecoming. Trevor says that "it will be a surprise, so get excited!"



**Richard Thornton**  
*Honor Council*

The Honor Council has worked hard over the summer in a documenting process. They have recorded data from the last five years of cases and analyzed this information in an attempt to find ways to help students avoid compromising their honor.

Richard has two goals for the school this year in regards to honor: to focus on daily honor and to take care of classmates. Richard wants the school to focus on the little things this year. Although it may be cliché, he believes that in order to be people of integrity, MBA students must be honorable on a day-to-day basis. Richard "aims for everyone to be straightforward in their interactions and do daily assignments with care." Along with individual integrity, he hopes that students will look out for the well-being of their classmates and encourage friends to do the right thing. Collectively striving to be honorable will make the MBA community stronger.

"All members of the M.B.A. community will strive to attain a solid foundation of morality and human decency knowing that without honor and integrity our accomplishments are meaningless." — MBA Honor Council Constitution

## STUDENT SPOT: SPORTS MEDICINE

By John Triplett  
Features Editor

Over the past few years, MBA's sports medicine program has grown and expanded into something much greater than in previous years. With the addition of a few new programs and internships, the training room has recently been a place full of vibrant activity and enthusiastic people.

The MTSU Medical Internship is one such program that has helped to increase activity and productivity in the training room. As a part of this internship, the MTSU athletic training program sends two undergraduate students per semester to work as trainers in the MBA training room. These

additions to the training room provide a couple more dedicated trainers and a constant flow of new faces and names. Not only do these interns bring extra sets of hands to MBA, but they also provide a new perspective regarding the athletic program and MBA as a whole.

Many of these internships have developed under the leadership of Head Athletic Trainer Brandon Thornberry, who has now held the position for five years. Speaking about this internship program, Thornberry explained that he "is very



**A YOUNG APPRENTICE AT WORK**  
Brandon Thornberry shows senior Jackson Garey the ropes of sports medicine.

a similar opportunity has emerged for MBA students to work in the training

room. Like the MTSU interns, a few MBA students act as trainers' assistants to facilitate sports around campus and deal with injuries and recovery. This opportunity has been growing constantly over the past four years at MBA, with more students participating in the program each year. It counts as an athletic credit for the students who participate because they often work long hours after school, travel, and work many games for several different teams on campus.

The students who take part in it enjoy the opportunity and all that it allows them to do and learn. Senior Ethan Yappen, who has been a participant for about a year, describes his experience with the program as "a fantastic opportunity to learn some valuable skills as a trainer and to work with some great people."

Already growing and attracting people, this program is not the end of expansion to sports medicine at MBA.

# How to Eat Your Way Through Nas

By Kang Huh  
Associate Editor

It's a great time to be in Nashville. The city is buzzing with tourism, developments are changing the city for the better, and the food culture is flourishing. Take, for example, East Nashville. Just a few years ago, East Nashville was seen as something of a low-key, residential area. Now, it's a hotbed of "hipster culture," which is reinventing and spreading the food scene across the Greater Nashville area.

Thanks to the rethinking of food taking place in East Nashville, it's once again "cool" to eat locally—an idea that lost popularity due to its association with the old farming days. It's this idea that has drawn so many popular chefs, such as Sean Brock and Jonathan Waxman, to Nashville.

It's safe to say that Nashville is shaping up to be a new culinary Mecca for foodies and regular eaters alike. With so many new restaurants and trends, it's only right for there to be a set of guidelines or tips to eating in this new Nashville that we seem to live in.

**1. Don't judge a book by its cover.** This tip may seem obvious, but you would be surprised by the degree to which eaters will shy away from a destination because of the way it looks. The neighborhood surrounding the establishment, the restaurant's exterior, and the restaurant's interior should not be deterrents—let the food speak for the restaurant.

**2. Fear not the foreign.** If you are an eater who lives and dies by American food, then you are seriously missing out on an entire world of cuisines and cultures. Don't get me wrong—American cuisine is delicious, but shutting yourself within the confines of such a small

intestines), but there is always a first time for everything, and some of these off-cuts (known as offal) are often the most delicious food items you will ever eat.

#### 4. Price is not palatable.

Don't let a price tag fool you. Just because your food is served on a silver plate on a linen tablecloth at a luxury restaurant does not mean that your food tastes good. Sometimes, you do get what you pay for in terms of the quality of the ingredients used, but let's face the facts here. Flavor is much more about using what you have to make the best product, not using the best ingredients to make a sad excuse for a dish. Do great ingredients in the hands of great chefs make great food? Almost always. However, there's always the chance that such a chef isn't handling your food.

**5. Yelp is useless.** This tip goes for any review site on the Internet, be it Urbanspoon or Tripadvisor—you name it, it's useless. Why? These sites host reviews from your "Average Joe" who might have "really enjoyed the quiet, casual ambience" of some restaurant, but "wasn't a fan" of the food there. Sure, these reviews

issue regarding Yelp's purported extortion tactics of getting businesses to pay them to get rid of "unsavory" reviews—but that subject is for another article entirely.)

**6. Eat seasonally, and eat locally.** A lot of restaurants these

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TONKOTSU RAMEN: Two Ten Jack serves up



**HOT SWEETBREADS:** Pinewood Social finds the quickest way to an eater's heart.



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**2. Fear not the foreign.** If you are an eater who lives and dies by American food, then you are seriously missing out on an entire world of cuisines and cultures. Don't get me wrong—American cuisine is delicious, but shutting yourself within the confines of such a small food culture is a gustatory death sentence. Of course, the same applies to any cuisine. Don't be afraid to try a genre of food that you have yet to experience.

**3. Prime cuts do not (always) make prime eats.** What is a prime cut, you ask? A prime cut is exactly what it sounds like: the supposed "best" meat off an animal, such as a filet mignon steak or a chicken breast. Of course, these cuts are delicious and are the ones we have the greatest access to, but the chances are that these aren't the tastiest things a restaurant has to offer. Have you ever tried bone marrow? Tripe? Tongues? You don't have to be a fan of any or all of these (personally, I'm not a huge fan of

intestines), but there is always a first time for everything, and some of these off-cuts (known as offal) are often the most delicious food items you will ever eat.

**4. Price is not palatable.** Don't let a price tag fool you. Just because your food is served on a silver plate on a linen tablecloth at a luxury restaurant does not mean that your food tastes good. Sometimes, you do get what you pay for in terms of the quality of the ingredients used, but let's face the facts here. Flavor is much more about using what you have to make the best product, not using the best ingredients to make a sad excuse for a dish. Do great ingredients in the hands of great chefs make great food? Almost always. However, there's always the chance that such a chef isn't handling your food.

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**6. Eat seasonally, and eat locally.** A lot of restaurants these



TONKOTSU RAMEN. Two Ten Jack serves up one of Kang's personal favorites.



HOT SWEETBREADS. Pinewood Social finds the quickest way to an eater's heart.

days are following a wonderful movement

that promotes eating locally (or at least regionally) and seasonally. What this means is that the restaurant's menu will change based on what kind of ingredient is available in a certain area during a certain time of year. What does this mean for you, the diner? This means that the menu will change periodically—sometimes daily. Not only is this method of cooking sustainable, but it's also a great way to promote variety in a "what you see is what you get" kind of way.

**7. Sharing is caring.** Sometimes, you'll find yourself in a

situation in which you want to try two or more dishes because they all sound so appetizing. Use this as a chance to invite some friends to eat family-style. It's a win-win situation, since you can try more types of food and share the experience with your friends.

**8. Anyone can cook—so do it.** The best way to know where to go, what to order, and how to eat is to cook good food yourself. By cooking, you develop food literacy. Soon enough, you'll be rattling off words like *sauté*, *sous vide*, and *bain-marie* as if you've been cooking your entire life. Cooking also provides a different perspective on eating. You'll find yourself having a greater respect for the restaurateurs and the amount of time and effort they put into serving the volume of food that they serve each day. As an added bonus, the most basic cooking skills will most certainly impress a female counterpart—but, again, that subject is for another article entirely.

Of course, with these tips comes a big caveat: if you can't afford it, don't eat it. Food is definitely not something that should break the bank—rather, it is an experience that should be enjoyed regardless of the amount you pay for it. Whether it costs \$10 or \$100, you should be satisfied by the way it tastes.

At the end of the day, you are what you eat, so make an effort to eat good food. Nashville's culinary scene is booming, and the perfect place to start.



## Nashville FC Making Soccer a Thing in TN

How a soccer club in *our* town is *our* team -- and just one part of the growth of soccer in the United States **C**

By William Snow  
Staff Writer

With the World Cup behind us, many Americans were left wondering where we could find our next soccer fix. Well just a few weeks after the tournament concluded, we were rewarded.

A record 109,000 people flocked to Ann Arbor, Michigan to see the famed Manchester United play Spanish power Real Madrid in Euro-League preseason scrimmage. Top clubs from across Europe are currently touring across America hoping to stake their claims in the hearts and minds of this new and growing fanbase.

Walking around campus on Jersey Day of Spirit Week, it is incredibly clear that there are plenty of Real Madrid fans, Manchester United supporters, a couple of miserable Hotspurs, and, even more miserable, the odd Swansea supporter, as well as die-hards for many more clubs in Europe. Clearly avid for soccer, many students meet on the soccer field on Sundays at noon for famed "FC Hype" pickup matches.

However, as much as the high

level of competition over in Europe is revered and imitated, little do students on The Hill realize that a fresh, new team to support has risen up in the past year—a team that plays practically in our own backyard.

Nashville FC is a nonprofit, supporter-based soccer club that was founded just this year. Playing its first year in the National Premier Soccer League, the team exceeded expectations and finished in third place in divisional play. In the playoffs, they began to earn their stripes, even despite getting knocked out by Chattanooga FC, the eventual league runner-up.

With no single owner, the club relies on memberships from fans and partnerships with local companies for funding, while leaning on "Founder Members" to handle decisionmaking. As a result of this ownership structure, its motto emerged as, "Our town, our club." Each Founder Member, two of which reside here on the Hill, receives a vote for each major club decision.

Nashville FC plays its home matches in Vanderbilt's soccer stadium, which houses a bit over two thousand people. Thanks to the vast support for this long-desired club, most of its home

matches this season reached full capacity. A couple of the players on the team have even achieved cult-hero status within the fan section. One of these players, in fact, is near and dear to our hearts here on the Hill: MBA soccer coach, Nashville FC striker, and Irish journeyman Alan O'Connor. O'Connor has had a successful first season on the team, even scoring the club's first-ever goal.

Possessing such a unique link to the team in O'Connor, more than a dozen students on campus have already attended matches.



STRATEGY MEETING. The team gathers together to discuss plays.

The hype for Nashville FC is definitely rising, along with just about every statistic in the U.S. pertaining to the sport: 25 million people watched the U.S. battle Portugal this past June, TV channels are paying more and more for the rights to air Premier League and La Liga matches, and fans nationwide are throwing boatloads of money into this newfound and unique passion. We as a community are lucky enough to have Nashville FC as our link into this rising culture of "futbol" lovers.



COACH O'CONNOR. MBA Varsity Soccer coach Alan O'Connor is a key contributor on the Nashville FC team. In fact, he was the first goal scorer in club history.



SEEING EYE TO EYE. Nashville FC coaches look on in observation of their club.

PHOTOS: NASHVILLE FC





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## A PIGSKIN PASSION

By John Triplett  
Features Editor

The time has come for Big Red Football to begin its 116th year of competition. Needless to say, many are excited to see what this new season has in store for the team, the school, and the community.

This summer has not been easy on the players, who have endured early morning workouts nearly every week these last few months. As the weeks leading up to that first Friday night grew closer, the team survived a week-long team camp in Bell Buckle (fittingly nicknamed "Hell Buckle"), which consisted of nearly three practices a day, late night running, massive meals, and much, much more.

The Big Red will be hoping to match the success of the previous season, which was one of the best in recent memory.

As a part of preseason preparation for the regular season, the team engaged in a series of scrimmages against teams around Tennessee during the first few weeks of August. As the final part of team camp in Bell Buckle, the first of these

took place against Siegel High School in Murfreesboro. As the first competitive scrimmage of the season, it represented a measuring point of how far the squad had come, and how far it still needed to go.

Although it was hard to gauge the team's status just by watching, due to the constant subbing in and out of younger members of the team, the team performed quite well against a solid Siegel squad. Despite much fatigue, the offense worked with proficiency, especially in the passing game, and

the defense held Siegel in check for most of the scrimmage.

Next, the team took quite the trek to Paris, TN to play Henry County, a formidable and skilled opponent. Last, the Big Red faced Franklin High School at home to round off a successful preseason full of new starters and contributors working hard to replace the spots of last year's leaders.

With plenty of solid contributors graduating this past May, many new faces have begun to distinguish themselves in workouts, and will be heavily involved in the Big Red's success this season.

Yet what this year's team may lack in experience they make up for in chemistry. As a team, they've developed very strong bonds amongst each other and trust that their

hard work will lead to week-by-week improvement for the team as a whole.

Senior right tackle James Throckmorton ('15) admitted, "It will be hard to replace the seniors from last year, but we definitely are up to the challenge." The Big Red graduated the entire offensive line and the defensive front seven, but several experienced rising seniors and juniors will step up and fill into those spots, with some great positional battles taking place along the way.

As the Christian Brothers open draws closer and closer, intense intersquad positional battles have not failed to make things interesting. For starters, Chad Mitchell ('15) and Phelps Gambill ('16) continue to go back and forth for the left tackle spot on the offensive line, as both are mammoth players with a good sense of the offense, essential for making the running game successful for the Big Red. Another key clash emerges over the center position between Gray Adelman ('16) and

Werner Bradshaw ('16). Both have yet to start a game for the Big Red, but their performances in the scrimmages likely determines which one gains the starting job. Lastly, Juniors Benjamin Graves ('16) and Winston Hewett ('16) battle in a key fight on the defensive side of the ball over the cornerback position. Graves got some first team action at corner last season, often in the nickel position, but Hewett has started to emerge as a growing force during the preseason. These battles will help determine the team's success this year, as we face quite the loaded schedule.

The Big Red will play its

opening game on Friday, August 22nd at Christian Brothers High School, a solid squad which the Big Red will have to start off strong against in order to truly kick off the season. The first half of the season is marked by alternating home and road games, with the Big Red's first home game on August 29th against Hamilton High School. Other notable trips include a ride to Baylor on September 5th, and a nice long drive down Hillsboro Road to Brentwood Academy on September 19th.

A few other big games during the season include the be-all-end-all



**MICHAEL LACEY ON THE RETURN.** Lacey ('15) fields a kick return during MBA's victory over McCallie last season.

game against Ensworth on October 3rd, taking place at home for the first time in three seasons. The Big Red will present the Homecoming game against Father Ryan next week on October 10th. The season then finishes off with two home games against JPIL and McCallie, a four-game home stretch to end the season.

Overall, this preseason has shown encouraging signs of a successful and exciting season to come for the Big Red, who will do their best to produce a spectacular year, and a fantastic time for the fans and community.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BIG RED PHOTOS

**IT'S PRIMETIME.** Austin Rolfe ('15) has been and will be the man on offense for the Big Red.





## Tristan Chari Will Join Now-National Champion Commodores

By Andrew Kaplan  
Asst. Business Manager

On a team led by underclassmen, the unsung hero of the Vanderbilt Commodores, Tim Corbin, led the SEC powerhouse to its first baseball national championship ever. Corbin, over the past 12 years, has built Vanderbilt into an elite program that competes in postseason play frequently.

But this year was something special. Nearly all of 2013's starters graduated, and the players placed in the spotlight were almost all freshmen and sophomores. And contrary to what many pundits might have predicted, the Commodores were able to sneak into the postseason. Once they got rolling, the victories began to rack up, and seemingly out of nowhere, almost miraculously, the 'Dores were in Omaha, the home of the College World Series. With the support of a loyal, traveling fan base behind them, the team's bats kept rolling and the W's kept coming. Vandy capped off the trip to Omaha with a 3-2 win against Virginia in the CWS Finals to clinch a 2-1 series win, sealing the national championship for the Nashville squad.

A key component in the success of the young Commodore team has been

its integration of young talent and the recruiting process, seamlessly executed by team staff. Montgomery Bell Academy's own Tristan Chari, graduate of the class of 2014, will be joining the 'Dores this coming season as a young catcher on the team. Chari is a prime example of strong 'Dore recruiting efforts.

In order for us to gain a better understanding of the overall experience, Tristan supplied the Bell Ringer staff with some inside information regarding this very recruiting process as well as the atmosphere surrounding the team.

When asked to describe head coach Tim Corbin, Chari replied, "Tim Corbin is not only a great coach but an even better person. As the nation saw this past year, he has truly turned Vanderbilt baseball into a great program over the past 12 years."

Corbin is almost unanimously described as an incredible leader and tactical coach who has been able to maintain an elite status as the figurhead of a major college baseball program.

The recruiting process specifically has been extremely important in Vanderbilt's ability to find success. Tristan describes the recruiting process as "a fun experience, yet stressful at times. I was very fortunate to have family and great coaches that

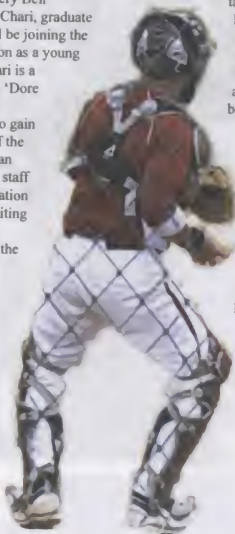
helped with everything. The recruiting process at Vanderbilt

was awesome, which made it very hard to turn down the opportunity. The coaches were extremely helpful throughout the whole process and all the guys on the team seem like great guys. I can't wait to be a part of such an awesome program."

The work that Corbin's coaching staff does to create such an impressive young talent pool has allowed the team to find continued success even when a successful lineup graduates and leaves the staff with nearly an entirely new starting lineup to fill.

Not only did Vandy figure out how to win with such an inexperienced team. The main core of the team will still be playing for several more years, since the stars of the roster are extremely young for the majority. For this reason, Vanderbilt looks to be a top seeded team come preseason time—and Tristan Chari can't wait to be a part of it.

"I am extremely excited to have the opportunity to play for a great coach such as Tim Corbin and all the other great coaches on his staff. He knows a lot about the game from being around it for so long and I can't wait to learn as much as possible from him about the game."



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN: Tristan Chari played catcher for the Big Red varsity baseball team.  
PHOTO COURTESY OF BIG RED PHOTOS

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## Titans Trying to Topple Longtime Obstacles

By Ethan Freije  
Staff Writer

Coming off a 7-9 record in 2013, the Tennessee Titans raise many question marks as they head into the 2014 season. Considering their suffering through a continued five-year playoff drought, one may wonder how the Titans faithful will retain their optimism and unwavering support for the team in this upcoming season.

Even as the team continues to find its way on the field, the Titans organization still has to ensure that fans show continued support for team by attending and enjoying games at LP Field. Wade Longmire (09'), an account executive for the Titans, is largely responsible for making sure Titans fans and season ticket holders are happy with their experience watching games at LP Field. High ticket prices and the desire to be able to watch other NFL games on television have caused many fans to settle for watching the games in the living room rather than at the stadium. Longmire's job is to prevent this from happening.

When asked about this conflict, Longmire remarked, "When the team is winning, we can make up a lot of ground in sales and retention, but we are also learning how to be successful as a ticket office even when the team is not. The league is making strides to improve the gameday experience so that even when your team is losing, the value of your ticket is more than that."

By adding amenities such as WiFi (now available in 2014) and a Redzone Channel on the viewer's phone, the organization has attempted to give fans the most satisfying experience at LP field as possible, and these benefits will hopefully discourage many from going to the couch instead of the stadium.

However, not everything Titan-related takes place in the stands—it's the gridiron that truly matters. From the devastating passing of former owner Bud Adams to the hiring of new head coach Ken Whisenhunt, the Titans organization has undergone many changes in the offseason, and faces many challenges heading into the fall.

Speaking on Bud Adams,

Longmire said it best, "It was hard on the organization to lose our owner Bud Adams last season. At the end of the day, he was the one ultimately responsible for bringing the Titans to town in the first place, and was one of the pioneers of the



**WELCOME TO MUSIC CITY:** New coach Ken Whisenhunt will look to do what Mike Munchak couldn't the past three seasons in Nashville.

PHOTO: MARK HUMPHREY/AP

modern day NFL." While certainly no one could replace this Titans icon, Longmire also acknowledged the fantastic job that Bud Adams' son in law, Tommy Smith has done as interim owner so far. Along with his work to provide as strong of a squad as possible, according to Longmire, Smith "has had a big influence on Coach Whisenhunt choosing the Titans over other coaching options, and his presence has helped rejuvenate a lot of energy in our building."

On the subject of Ken Whisenhunt, like many, Longmire realizes the difficulties that come alongside a new head-coaching staff, but also has strong faith in the proven head coach.

"Anytime you have a new coach in the NFL, it usually comes with some growing pains," Longmire said. "With all of those changes, it's hard to expect tons of success in a new coach's first season. But if anyone can do it, it's Coach Whisenhunt."

Much of the faith in Ken Whisenhunt roots from his past success with quarterbacks, most famously

leading Kurt Warner and the Cardinals to a Super Bowl appearance. Conveniently, the most concerning aspect of the Titans' recent struggles has been the lack of stability at quarterback. Jake Locker, who three years ago came to Nashville with extremely high expectations, has proven to be incredibly injury-prone, playing only 23 games in his first three seasons. When healthy, however, Locker has provided the team with brief glimmers of hope, including a 3-1 start to the 2013 season.

On the other side of the ball, new defensive coordinator Ray Horton, in Longmire's eyes, "is probably a great head coaching candidate in years to come." With the offense's dependability largely in doubt, Horton and the defense might be forced to carry this Titans team. However, losing a key defensive piece in cornerback Alterraun Verner will make this task even more difficult.

Amidst all the uncertainty, the wildcard for the Titans will still be the health of Locker. If Locker can stay healthy and perform, Tennessee could have a shot at a playoff spot.



Should his injury issues persist, however, the team will be forced to hand over the reins to backup quarterback Charlie Whitehurst, with whom even Ken Whisenhunt, the so-called "quarterback whisperer," would struggle to find success.



**A TENNESSEE TEAM PLAYER:** Justin Hunter is heading into his sophomore NFL season, one that will hopefully be a good one for him.

PHOTO: USA TODAY SPORTS



PHOTO: RANTS/SPORTS.COM

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## No Strikes for the MBA/HH Theater Collaboration

By Andrew Kaplan  
Asst. Business Manager

This August, *Damn Yankees* will be appearing on the MBA stage for the 17th annual MBA-Harpeth Hall musical collaboration. The show, set in the 1950s, features a man who is willing to sell his soul for the chance to lead his favorite team to the World Series.

The cast and crew have been working tirelessly for weeks of their summer as they prepare to put on a fantastic production, as the musicals are often the most popular and highly regarded productions of the year.

Dr. Fuller, the musical's director, said, "I love the athleticism of the show

and the teamwork required to make it a success. Even though the jokes are corny, they really make me laugh. I think the audiences will enjoy them too." He is very enthusiastic and excited about the performance, as it will include a variety of exciting tech features as well as all-star talent.

Jess Darnell, a lead actor in the musical, elaborated about the play: "Damn Yankees is a hilarious re-telling of the Faust legend. Expect home-run hilarity and a good old fashioned musical theatre score. It's a lot of fun." Jess, among many other thespians in the show, is excited for the remaining weeks before the play begins.

The show also features a

large chorus—the cast of the show is numerous, as the directors are working to incorporate a large number of thespians into a play. The goal is to allow for a fascinating amount of traffic on the stage, introducing further elements of comedy and excitement to the show.

Meredith Welborn, a student at Harpeth Hall and a member of the musical's chorus, commented, "I really love the dynamic of the baseball team in the show. They're all so talented and so goofy and it makes the show very entertaining."

The performance includes an entire baseball team as well as a plethora of other actors and actresses that are all working tirelessly to put on a fantastic

performance to kick off this year's theater lineup.

The musical usually sells out quickly, so be sure to reserve your tickets significantly ahead of time. Stay tuned for an assembly announcement about the show.

"*Damn Yankees*" will run August 27th to 30th—Wednesday and Thursday at 7pm, Friday at 4:30pm, and Saturday at 2pm, all held at MBA in the Paschall Theater. Make sure you attend and support all of the thespians taking part in this production, as it is shaping up to be one of the most exciting productions yet!



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CAL FULLER

**SWING, BATTER BATTER.** The baseball squad rocks their new hats and can be expected to knock a few out of the park this fall.



**TEAM CAPTAINS** Caroline Sandrell and senior Jack Duke lead *Damn Yankees* on the stage.



**FLEXING** The formidable cast of *Damn Yankees* show off their arms, which are similar in size to the actual Yankees.

# Jack White a Key Contributor in Music Community

By Steve Wood  
Entertainment Editor

Though one of Nashville's most notable and prolific rock musicians, the ubiquitous Jack White is not actually from Nashville. But he might as well be. The guitarist of bands The White Stripes, The Raconteurs, and The Dead Weather has come to be the face of rock music in Nashville and across the country.

Opening Third Man Records in Nashville in 2009, White has built strong connections with the local music scene and an even more direct relationship with rock music fans. The 7th Avenue South location houses a record store, performing venue, and an analog recording booth, among other attractions. As such, White has placed heavy emphasis on his vinyl albums.

Blunderbuss, White's 2012 solo album, set a record for recent vinyl sales

with roughly 33,000 vinyl albums sold and counting. Building upon his success, White released Lazaretto in June of this year, just before his headline performance at Manchester's Bonnaroo festival. Hailed as an "ultra-LP," the one-disc album is loaded with special features: the A-side plays from the center of the disc to the outer edge (rather than out to in), the first song on the B-side, "Just One Drink," has both an acoustic and an electric version interwoven with each other. The disc even has a holographic angel that appears to rotate with the disc.

Sales of Lazaretto, topping 238,000 albums sold, indicate both the reviving appreciation of the vinyl format and the success of White's band. The album is indeed quite good, merging the raw intensity of White's fuzz-laden guitar with a number of classic influences to create a unique rock

and roll sound.

Following the release of Lazaretto, White has embarked on an ambitious summer tour, playing major festivals like Bonnaroo, Glastonbury, and Forecastle, along with a multitude of other shows. The band puts on an incredible show—White's performance at Bonnaroo easily ranks as one of the best shows of the festival. Playing as the Saturday night headliner on the What Stage, the band continued well past midnight as White conversed with the

crowd and finished his encore with an electrified "Seven Nation Army."

Jack White's influence on modern rock cannot be understated. His vinyl obsession has made waves in the vinyl renaissance, and the resurgence of rock music as a popular genre, with bands like The Black Keys also garnering attention, may be attributed in part to White's heavy involvement with the music scene. These are exciting times, and it's exciting to anticipate what White has in store for us next.



PHOTO: THE GUARDIAN



NOSTALGIA Jack White's albums revive the sentiments of the olden days.  
PHOTO: MOJO4MUSIC.COM

## BATTLE OF THE BANDS

MBA-based music groups make noise at Boys School Conference

By Peter Taylor  
Asst. Entertainment Editor

On July 1st, Nashville's famous Rocketown held a spectacular musical meeting. Hot off the heels of MBA's successful Cellophony and Endada,

this meeting brought together some of the most talented young (and older) musicians that Nashville currently has to offer. This meeting could only be one thing: The Battle of the Bands!

MBA organized The Battle of the Bands as part of the International Boys' School Coalition's Student Forum. Composed of students of schools from

seven countries and four US states, the Forum held its conference at MBA this summer from June 29th to July 2nd.

The Battle of the Bands provided an entertaining evening for the Forum and raised more than \$500 for the W.O. Smith Music School, an organization whose mission is to provide quality music education to children of low-income families.

The event itself went off without hitch. The performers included MBA alumni Dead King Cotton (Harrison Davies, Kipper Worthington, Fred Harwell), Radnor (Warner Carpenter, Connor Hoffman, Salvatore Neglia), Littlefoot (Nathan Fouts), Five Piece Fortune, which is composed of current MBA students, New Days Await, SRFVJ and Fade to Black.

There were other attractions too, aside from the young talent, including a dance contest. The highlight of the night, however, was the MBA faculty band of Mr. Matt Smyth, Mr. Tyler Meredith, Mr. Marcus Piggee, Mr. David Norton, and Mr. Chris Reynolds. The band stole the show while judges tallied the scores for



LITTLE FEET, BIG VOICE: Nathan Fouts ('13), a.k.a. Littlefoot, performs during the Battle of the Bands.



FORTUN(ATE) ENOUGH: Freshman band Five Piece Fortune finished first in a competitive field of Big Red musicians.

bands.

In the end, it is fair to say that MBA won this battle. Five Piece Fortune took first place, Littlefoot won both second place and fan favorite, and Radnor snagged third place.

Congratulations to all the participants. The Battle of the Bands was a wildly successful event, and hopefully it will happen again in the near future.



# LONDON'S TATE MODERN



Industrial minimalism exemplified in the museum's entryway

HARRISON WHEELER/BR

By Harrison Wheeler  
Opinions Editor

Composed of 4.2 million bricks and the former home of the Bankside Power Station, London's Tate Modern is a spectacle in and of itself. Factor in the museum's impressive collection—consisting of works done by Warhol, Dali, Matisse, Picasso, and more—and Tate Modern becomes a “must-see” attraction for tourists and locals alike.

Located along the banks of the River Thames, Tate Modern is walking distance from other London hotspots like Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and the Millennium Bridge. Completed in 2000, the museum has housed some of the world's most valuable collections.

This summer, Tate Modern became the temporary home of a staggering 120

works created by artist Henri Matisse during the last two decades of his life. The exhibition, titled “Henri Matisse: The Cut Outs,” is testament to the incredible skill and innovation that has made Matisse one of the most influential modern artists of the century.

Replacing his paintbrush with a pair of scissors, Matisse mastered the art of “découpage,” the process of gluing of colored paper cutouts onto a canvas or object. During the latter half of his life, Matisse created hundreds of incredible

works using this technique. When placed upon a stark white background, Matisse's whimsical shapes and objects produce a truly unique effect. The contrast between the positive and negative spaces formed by the paper creates a level of balance and depth in each work.

The exhibit's most memorable pieces are a series of works known as the “Blue Nudes,” in which Matisse depicts the blue female form in various positions. The works are most impactful when viewed collectively as a series.

While some critics have claimed that Matisse's style is oversimplified, the majority of the art community cherishes and appreciates Matisse's body of work, and the Tate's exhibition is sure to be remembered for years to come.

In recent decades, modern art has gained a significant level of public appeal. In fact, it is now commonplace for people

of all ages to educate themselves about art and visit local art museums. While this trend can be seen in all parts of the United States, the draw of art has become especially noticeable in Nashville.

Nashville's Frist Museum has been a beacon of activity since 2001. Many small galleries now draw in substantial crowds. Look, for example, at Nashville's “First Saturday Art Crawl.” Taking place on the first Saturday of every month, this downtown Nashville

event consistently attracts over 1,000 people. The event is free of cost and takes place in and around Nashville's Arcade district.

For those in search of something more low-key, Nashville is home to countless small modern galleries such as Zeitgeist, Tinney Contemporary, and

art has extended all the way to MBA's campus. Endada, MBA's annual music and arts festival, is one of the city's most established artistic events. Additionally, numerous MBA students receive Scholastic Gold and Silver Keys each year for their excellent artwork.

As MBA's art department



RIVER PERSPECTIVE: A view of the Tate Modern from the Thames

HARRISON WHEELER/BR



QUIET OBSERVATION: A woman enjoys one of the many works on display in the Tate's world-class Matisse exhibit

HARRISON WHEELER/BR

Gallery One.

Without a doubt, Nashville's art scene has grown exponentially in the past decade.

In fact, Nashville's interest in

continues to grow, one thing is certain: MBA students will undoubtedly continue to impact the burgeoning art scene in Nashville.

## Lotus Brings Organic, Nostalgic Sound to *Gilded Age*

By Matt Miccioli  
Associate Editor

*Gilded Age*, a ten track release from Lotus, delves into the roots of jam rock. Characterized by more traditional guitar and keyboard riffs than the band's previous efforts, *Gilded Age* reflects the group's further experimentation following their hip hop release in September of 2013. Deviating from Lotus' more recent electronically influenced, pop-like tracks, the album more closely resembles their earlier work.

The July 22nd release signals the beginning of Lotus' late summer and fall tour, during which the group will be performing at several festivals and a signature event at Red Rocks with electronica group Papadosio.

Six original songs and four remixes comprise the album, with three featuring the guest vocals of Steve Yutzy-Burkey. The album's opening track, "Let Me In," melds the airy, enchanting vocals of Yutzy-Burkey with a meandering synth line. The guitar, although punchy, is backed by soft drums, resulting in one of the mellower songs on the album. A far cry from

the high energy tracks on *Build* (2013), "Let Me In" is clearly in no hurry, more appropriate for smaller venues than a charged festival audience.

The title track, "Gilded Age," is a standout. The bright lead guitar initially warbles along the higher frets until reaching an exciting, power chord-infused climax. Unburdened by vocals, the track gives substantial freedom to guitarists Luke Miller and Mike Rempel, reminiscent of the sounds of Lotus' 2008 album *Hammerstrike*. As a result, the song has been a concert favorite of the band in the months leading up to the

studio release.

In contrast, "I Want It All," represents the nadir of the album. Placing too much emphasis on Yutzy-Burkey's vocals, the song is hardly identifiable as Lotus. Missing the "jam" aspect of "jam rock," the track drags on for five underwhelming minutes, passing beyond slower style jams and entering the realm of boredom.

The group does, however, find redemption with the album's fourth song, "The Oaks." Rivaling "Gilded Age" for the best guitar parts of the album, it will hopefully garner more attention in future live performances.

The next song, "Out of Focus," finds a better vocal balance than the egregious "I Want It All" and is stylistically comparable to "Let Me In."

"Sunset

PHOTO:  
BANDCAMP.COM

of the Giant Dipper" further extends the album's walk down memory lane. Easily at home with tracks on Lotus' 2003 release *Germination*, "Sunset" is the slowest and longest instrumental track of *Gilded Age*. The song is a mellow and appropriate conclusion to the album's original material, and it is followed thereafter by four remixes.

Adding electronic pizzazz to four of the acoustic tracks, the mixes are moderately entertaining as standalone works; however, they hardly compare to the originals with which they are juxtaposed.

I would have preferred a five track EP from Lotus (the originals sans "I Want It All") with the remixes released later on a dedicated album like Copy Paste Repeat: Lotus Remixed. Nevertheless, *Gilded Age* satisfies. The continued experimentation is certainly worthy of commendation. Although the guest vocals are overemphasized at times, *Gilded Age* delivers plenty of guitar-driven grooviness.



**RATING: 7.5/10 Waffles**



## Phish heats up with *Fuego*

By Steve Wood  
Entertainment Editor

In their first studio album since 2009, Phish has packed *Fuego* with the energy and quirkiness characteristic of the group's live shows. The songs are long—typically no less than five minutes—allowing the four piece band to enter into extended organ and guitar jams.

Keeping with the blossoming vinyl trend, Phish released *Fuego* on a limited 2 disc orange vinyl set. Critics may call the bright orange discs a sales gimmick, but the records undoubtedly look really cool on the turntable.

"Phans" should purchase the vinyl set to get the full *Fuego* experience.

The album opens with the nine-minute title-track "Fuego," a song which captures the live style of the famed Vermont jam band remarkably well. After the initial verses, "Fuego" breaks down into a long guitar jam, in guitarist Trey Anastasio's signature overdriven style, backed by keyboardist Page McConnell's heavy organ rhythm. Emerging from the jam, the group sings in repetitive harmony, "Inside your Fuego / We keep it rolling," then enters another jam for the song's duration.

After "Fuego," the band hits a jazzier note in "The Line." The song

opens with a cool bass line from bassist Mike Gordon conjoined with acoustic piano and tremolo-heavy guitar. Though the initial tempo is moderately fast, the tempo slows considerably for the chorus, altering the mood of the song. "Devotion to a Dream" also features an upbeat tempo, but it is notable for the group's multipart vocal harmonies. The highlight of the song is the second-half jam marked by Anastasio's unique lead guitar riffs.

"Halfway to the Moon" opens the B-side of the album with an almost-psychedelic sound. Acoustic piano floats dreamily above tremolo-heavy guitar and Pink Floyd-style backing

vocals, driven by heavy drums and bass. Phish then finds a more tropical sound in "Winterqueen" as reverb-drenched instruments gradually appear in the song. It seems to me that Phish pays homage to the Grateful Dead's "Fire" for a short section of the song. "Sing Monica" contains multi-part group vocals over an energetic bass and synth rhythm.

Phish gets downright funky in "555," mixing wah guitar and Hammond organ with heavily soulful choruses and long drum fills. The latter half of the song holds the overdriven, wah wah sound of a funky Anastasio guitar solo.

*Fuego* shifts dramatically with the next song, "Waiting all Night," which has a slow, dreamy atmosphere and heavy synth bass at parts.

Performed on NBC's the Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon, the song is an excellent testament to the group's vocal capabilities. The first and only truly strange song on the album, "Wombat" contains falsetto harmonies and weird, conversation-like outbursts, vaguely reminiscent of Phish's "Possum."

The album closes with the meandering melodies of "Wingsuit." Beginning with somewhat trippy, mellow guitar and piano, the song appears to be over midway into its fourth minute before returning for a heavy jam for the duration of the album.

My recommendation is this: don't buy the album (yet). Listen to it on Spotify, save your money, and buy a ticket to see Phish live. Phish is one of the best jam bands around, and, by nature, the live performance is the most important aspect of the band. A Phish concert is like nothing else, and you will no doubt be thoroughly entertained.



**RATING: 9/10 Waffles**



PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA



## Freshman but Not Yet Proper Gentleman

By Alex Bulgarino  
Staff Writer

We, the Class of 2018, did not just survive 8th grade. We owned the Junior School. Three short months later, we find ourselves at the start of a Herculean task: Freshman Year. Many freshmen have indeed changed some aspect about them to prepare themselves, but it was, in general, the wrong change.

For example, **Daniel and Robert Cowan** (which one is which?)

have given up hockey and now are going pro in rec league soccer. Also, **Cole "Bad Cole" Deal** has at long length stopped hanging out with the girls from his old school, CPA (hissssss). Now some say he actually has a girlfriend (shocker!!!).

**Colin "Good Cole" Deal** is now trying to be a kicker for the football team.

**Robert Li**, though, has held true to his nature and been enjoying the vibes of "empty gyms," in which he's been graciously sending swolse selfies via Snapchat. Ray "New Math" Lee spent the summer months in a tree making bird calls. Rumor has it that he has grown feathers or something. Maybe **Thomas Bellet** won't be the only one who gets demerits for making duck noises.

**Ivan "made in Japan" Franco** and **Brian Lu** were spotted at the Country Music Hall of Fame playing some classical music together. They have

since disappeared from the Freshman Radar. **Evans Looney** still hangs out with his "Crew Bros" in the Senior Class. Some would even say that he is the most prepared to go into high school. Harrison Avery has been preparing his "theater tech guy" look, and has been spotted chilling with some ladies from time to time.

**Jackson "Ultimate Lax Bro" Abbey** was spotted teaching underage fish how to play lacrosse as he went deep-sea fishing. **Browner Smith** was



DRIVER'S ED Freshmen celebrate a shared passion for learning.

talking more to Ensworth girls than learning how to drive at drivers ed. (You better watch him out there.) **Sam "It's not Strange" Strang**, **Houston Hartle**, and **Patrick Dennis** also went to drivers ed, with the BIG E, learned the three rules of driving:

1. Trees always win.
2. Poles always sometimes win
3. (Everyone's favorite.) Fluffy gets it.

Somewhere, someone has

earned his learner's permit and is typing out a Facebook status that says, "Ready to get on the road! lol."

**Mike Miccioli** received a Wilson Science Grant and went to some astronomy camp where he learned about cold stars, diamond planets, and of course the "planet" Pluto. Maybe he can make good use of the observatory.

In honor of our huge step into the "real" (MBA) world, I have compiled a list of the top 10 things that the Freshman Class is looking forward to:

10. Finally being able to leave Massey and Ingram
9. Not having the high schoolers screech when we make announcements at assembly, even if our voices are high
8. Getting college mail and thinking that schools actually want us
7. Doing debate or theater with "workouts" on the side
6. Social awareness meetings
5. Having the sophomores take all of the Harpeth Hall freshmen
4. Knowing about every single "Twitter beef"
3. Being the cause of "Twitter beef" 95% of the time
2. Starting a club "because I really love it...and it might help for college"
1. Having all honor and disciplinary offenses cleared

Now, as we prepare to go back to school, you too must make necessary changes. As **Thomas Carr** said, "I can't wait to see you when school starts."

## Don't Blow It

By Peter Taylor  
Asst. Entertainment Editor

Ahh, Sophomore Year. We've got a year of high school under our belts, and now we think we're invincible. Just because we survived Mrs. Holmgren's double lectures, endured the Hominid lessons offered by Ancient-Medieval History, and have finally finished with Latin, we now think we are all hot stuff and that we totally have this high school thing figured out. But do we? Could it be true? Have we finally beaten MBA?

The answer is no.

We are all in for a rude awakening and have a long, rough ride ahead of us. Two of this campus's hardest courses, Chemistry and American History (especially its Advanced Placement variety), are required sophomore year. Most of us young athletes will be finally getting actual exposure to varsity sports, especially the football players, who are now thrown in with the rest of the pack. Some of us will begin to worry about college: where we might want to go, what we would like to study, what we have to do to get there.

On top of all of that, some of us even have friends, and it's rumored that a few people actually know one or two girls (or as I like to call them, crutches). And now we even think we have a bit of power, since we aren't Freshmen anymore.

This is also false. We are even less important than the freshmen, and even microbes to some extent, because at least upperclassmen care about freshmen enough to make fun of them. We are truly the awkward middle children of this educational institution. Therefore, in lieu of my usual random nicknames and anecdotes (like how **Will "Heart Diagram" Warren** moved to Ohio), I am going to write a single rule/principle that we should all follow:

We are NOT upperclassmen. Therefore, as long as we don't act like upperclassmen, we should be good.

We seasoned freshmen veterans have now become true sophomores. Let's not blow it.

(pron. lord-ay). **Owen** will be eager to tell anyone all about the "unforgettable" adventures of his life.

In the world of sports, many members of the Class of 2016 continue to thrive. **Ben Graves** dominates on the football field while miraculously sporting one of the most beautiful haircuts in the history of humankind. Cross country runner **Robert Dedman** is prepared to run fast this fall. In the world of "mathletics," juniors **Tony Ding** and **Carter Heckle** look to continue the success they had last year.

In closing, we would like to remind everyone to follow the example set by **Yavin Alwis** in everything you do.

## Juniors in School ≠ Junior School

By Werner Bradshaw & Nolan Spear  
Staff Writer & Sports Editor

Well, Big Red, it's been a long summer, and it's time for some changes. Following in the footsteps of the illustrious senior class newswriters before us, we've decided to split our class news as well. It's a big move, we know, but it is our goal to deliver class news so powerful that we can one day be considered two of the greats, and maybe even reach the same status as MBA legend Scott Dalton.

This summer, in the case of the Class of 2016, was full of #nuts, rad activities, copious summer reading, international money transfers, and a lot of empty cardboard boxes. But as always, we held it down fairly well.

However, the beginning of the

summer didn't start out very well for us, heath-wise. **Jack King**, master of the early morning workout and rumored member of the Class of 2015, legally changed his name to "Kong." Alas, "Kong" fell victim to a sprained ankle before June even began, putting him out of football for two whole weeks. One man asked "Kong" about the cause of this injury, and he could only mutter, "Brentwood." **Nick Dreher**, another proud football team member, fell victim to poor health as well, developing a most puzzling ailment. His back, always a little sore, began to develop serious long, red, rope-shaped welts across it. As the summer progressed, golf team member **Conner Gray** began to feel these same pains. One can only hope that JV Hockey's own **Will Beasley** can escape this plague, as his friends have already begun to notice symptoms.

Nevertheless, even as poor health strikes the junior class, you know starting back-liner **Russell McGinn** has held it all together. Besides dominating the ice in summer hockey workouts, "Big Hoss McGinn" has lost a little weight. When the Bell Ringer asked him about it, he simply said, "I run the aisles of Publix, and drink only water. No other liquid." **Brodie Poe** has been keeping tabs on "Hoss McGinn" and says that he's definitely slimmed down. In other news, **Stephen Richey** has been pretty shy the entire summer.

Not everyone was as lucky as **Owen Curry** this summer, who enjoyed "kickin'" times in foreign countries" (source: numerous Snapchat stories, Instagrams), only rivaled by **Peter Briggs**, whose summer was spent listening to teen pop sensation LORDE

## Senior Class(iest) News

### By Whoever Wanted To What Writers?

The summer leading up to senior year was a good one. Although it felt too short as always, the senior class made the most of it. The summer music scene provided many opportunities for good family fun. Die-hard country music fan **Andrew Conwell** said the CMA Fest was a blast. Apparently, **Wren McFadden** grew some gills at CMA Fest and is planning on making a senior year debut on the swim team. **Steeveeee Wood** and the dudes had a rad time at Bonnaroo. Many others happened to see "Lady A," whatever that is.

In addition to enjoying good tunes, many of our classmates had awesome experiences abroad, spreading Big Red spirit across the globe. **Parker Logan** discovered his passion for herding sheep in New Zealand. Best Boy **Jermaine Francis** showed Beijing No. 4 how to ball out, and Stephen Sullivan really loved the food in Singapore. Unfortunately, **Davis Luster** perished in his attempts to scheme in Australia. In South Africa, **Kang Huh** learned that Afrikaans is hard, but rhinos are harder. **Harrison Wheeler** thought Winchester was "interesting." Speaking of "interesting," did you know that "Laptop" **Michael Milam** went to Eton last year? Apparently the bacon is whiter there.

In other news, there was allegedly a golf outing with *The Bell Ringer* staff and one Dr. Tim Boyd. **Aaron Kaplan** learned to "just say no" to Oxford commas at Columbia University. **Anthony Swenson**, sadly, is no longer a Flow God. **Matt Miccioli** has decided that his Instagram profile is "like National Geographic, but without the malaria and political correctness." **Mac Mackey**, on the other hand, stepped up his "Instagram" with one legendary pic—we also love the Ray-Bans, **Mac**. **Mac** also is also "really into lifeguarding, but just for the Snapchats that show 'I'm at work.'" His visor is still missing. **Akeim George** spent the summer holed up at some Norwegian city known as "Stånfjord." He still thinks it's the best place on earth. **Luke Kinman** is probably meditating right now. **Harry Stewart** spent the summer cooking and is now ready to redesign the Sage menu, which still features the firecracker chicken left over from the 4th of July.

In addition to the established folk-rock group Dutch and the Kid (Henry Rogers, Kang Huh, and William



**Richardson**), a new band popped up in the Nashville music scene. Members Si "Dover" Deane, Luke Wooten, Ross Rochford, Andrew Porter, and Rueben Dockery formed a group called The Station, marking the rebirth of W8less. Their EP is available on pretty much any music website/store/app one can imagine if you want to check it out. Their album

cover has received critical acclaim from the LGBT Center on account of the artwork's creative flair and authentic Nashville twist. **Thomas Marosz** had some fun in Poland and, in the spirit of The Station, has been inspired to begin recording tracks for a Tibetan throat singing EP. Many members of the Class of 2015 have been patiently waiting



NEXT STOP, THE STATION: Nashville's newest band promises new hits.

for DJ Tonenectar and DJ "bayrick" to release their debut EP entitled "Kinman's Classics."

We're still looking for **James Owen**.

Now that we are finally seniors, our favorite frat star **William Richardson** and **Owen Powell** compiled a list of the Top 10 things seniors are looking forward to:

10. Eating outside of The New Dining Hall
9. Having slightly better parking spots
8. Going on the Ireland trip
7. Being cool (old) enough for Harpeth Hall
6. Going to The Station concerts
5. Finally becoming socially aware (not shaking his hand)
4. Having that little brother we've always wanted
3. Not lying when we say "Senior" in the lunch line
2. Getting to do the fitness test one last time
1. Winning. Every time.

Welcome to the Kingdom!

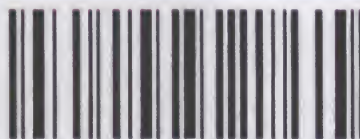


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# THE TOP 10 TO END ALL TOP 10S

## TOP 10:

### Rejected Mascots

1. The Red Kool-Aid Man
2. Bob the Tomato from VeggieTales
3. Old Red
4. Ebola
5. Clifford the Big Red Dog
6. The Red Sea
7. The Red Power Ranger
8. Mikhail Gorbachev's red birthmark
9. The Red Scare
10. Coach Lerner's mysterious and duffel bag

### Rejected SAGE Foods

1. Pasta
2. Spa Water
3. Red Slime
4. Innards
5. Chicken Feet
6. Chicken feat. Mo' Chicken
7. Roadkill reduction
8. Fresh produce handpicked from the MBA garden
9. Over-churned butter
10. Tennessee Tender Catfish Soufflé

### Rejected Dining Hall Names

1. Carnival K&S Dining Hall
2. Lean Cuisine Dining Hall
3. PETA Dining Hall
4. Harpers Hall School Dining Hall
5. Vineyard Vines Dining Hall
6. GoDaddy.com Dining Hall
7. Koch Industries Dining Hall
8. Elan Motel Dining Hall
9. General Motors Safety First Dining Hall
10. Food Desert Dining Hall

### Rejected Clubs

1. Insider Trading Club
2. Khaki Aficionados
3. Kreative Kraft Klub
4. Friends of Traditional Marriage
5. Apathy Club
6. Ultraviolence Club
7. Empathy Club
8. Productive Study Halls Club
9. We are the 1% Club
10. Caucasian Studies



### Rejected Pep Rally Activities

1. Tiger hunts
2. Tiger effigy burnings
3. Big Red Gatorade Pong
4. Dwarf bowling
5. Splatter painting with KJ Schumacher
6. Pun battles with Dr. Bailey
7. Mavis Beacon showdowns
8. Aztec-style sacrificing of ripe microbes
9. Blood donation
10. Male cheerleader mud rasslin'

### Rejected Chorus

1. "Kill the tiger, cut its throat, spill its blood."
2. "You shall not turn the Red Sea."
3. "Y'all ain't affluents like us."
4. "The redder the better."
5. "Y'all didn't pass drug tests like us."
6. "We don't pass drug tests."
7. "Nothing makes the AstroTurf grove."
8. "Is your track lifted?"
9. "Have you been out dining hall?"
10. "We just painted your town red."



DON'T YOU LEAVE TILL YOU SEE THE NEW DINING HALL!

### Rejected Alma Maters

1. "The Times They Are A-Changing" - Bob Dylan
2. "Sexual Healing" - Marvin Gaye
3. "I Might Be" - Gucci Mane
4. "Buffalo Soldier" - Bob Marley & The Wailers
5. "Love Sosa" - Chief Keef
6. "Levels" - Avicii
7. "Stick to the Status Quo" - High School Musical
8. "Funkytown" - Lipps, Inc.
9. "I Shot the Sheriff" - Eric Clapton
10. "Hit it First" - Ray J

### Rejected Campus Transportation

1. Mini-AMP
2. Razor scooters (RIP)
3. Camels
4. Donkeys
5. Plug-in-bus rides
6. Barges
7. Malaysian Airlines
8. Microbe sleds
9. Ziplines
10. Grondolas paddled by the rowing team

### Rejected School Sports

1. Curling
2. Luge
3. Croquet
4. Underwater basketweaving
5. Chess boxing
6. Polo
7. Bull riding
8. Messin with Sasquatch
9. Are you nervous?
10. Competitive leapfrog

